

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KATHMA 00514 300320Z

12

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 AID-05 SS-15 DEAE-00 CIAE-00

INR-07 JUSE-00 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SNM-02 SY-04 TRSE-00

USIA-06 NSC-05 OES-03 OMB-01 AGR-05 /074 W

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R 300235Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0673

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

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E.O. N/A

TAGS: SNAR, NP

SUBJECT: RECOMMENDED GUIDELINES - CROP OR INCOME SUBSTITUTION

REF: STATE 283211

1. THE MISSION NARCOTICS COMMITTEE HAS REVIEWED THE CROP SUBSTITUTION GUIDELINES SET OUT IN THE REFERENCED MESSAGE. GIVEN THE FACT THAT NEPAL IS NOT A MAJOR PRODUCER OF EITHER POPPIES OR COCA, THERE IS ONLY LIMITED APPLICABILITY OF THESE GUIDELINES TO NEPAL. CANNABIS HAS BEEN GROWN COMMERCIALY IN THE TERAJ AND CONTINUES TO BE HARVESTED FROM WILD GROWTH IN THE WESTERN HILLS. AS THE EMBASSY REPORTED IN ITS 4840, THE UNDP IS CONSIDERING THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN INCOME SUBSTITUTION PROGRAM FOR THE WESTERN HILLS. HOWEVER, SINCE CANNABIS GROWS WILD, NO DIRECT CROP SUBSTITUTION IS POSSIBLE. ON THE OTHER HAND THE GOVERNMENT OF NEPAL IS ALREADY ENCOURAGING THE GROWTH OF TOBACCO AS A SUBSTITUTE CASH CROP IN THE TERAJ.

2. THE MISSION BELIEVES THAT THERE IS NO NEED FOR BILATERAL US INVOLVEMENT IN CROP OR INCOME SUBSTITUTION MEASURES AT THIS TIME. THE UNDP'S EFFORTS ARE ALREADY

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FULLY CONSISTENT WITH THE PROPOSED GUIDELINES. IN ANY

PGROGRAM WHICH THE UN DEVELOPS, IT WILL INSIST ON
PARALLEL HOST GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS AND COMMITMENT OF
RESOURCES. IF THE UNDP IS SUCCESSFUL IN DESIGNING A
PILOT INCOME SUBSTITUTION PROGRAM, THERE IS CONSIDERABLE
LIKELIHOOD THAT THE GON WILL MAKE THE DEMONSTRABLE
POLITICAL COMMITMENT REQUIRED TO ENACT A PENDING
NARCOTICS CONTROL LAW. THE MISSION ALSO BELIEVES THAT
THE USG SHOULD CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE UN'S EFFORTS AND,
AS APPROPRIATE, ENCOURAGE IT TO PURSUE ITS PROJECT
DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES IN THIS FIELD.
CARGO

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NNN

Message Attributes

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